

AVANTI HALL SCHOOL

Friday Flier

ISSUE 3, FRIDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2019

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Mon 25 th Nov	PTFA Fayre planning meeting	Fri 6 th Dec	Flu vaccinations
Tues 26 th Nov	Careers South West visit to Upper School	Fri 6 th Dec	Reception open morning
Thurs 28 th Nov	Upper School Creative Arts Day	Mon 9 th Dec	PTFA AGM
Sat 30 th Nov	Advent Fair	9 th – 20 th Dec	Class 10 mock exams

MARTINMAS



With the turning year the mood of Michaelmas has now led to a new shift into Martinmas. The courage that was gathered with work and will under an autumnal sun may now be tempered by the gathering darkness, but not diminished. St Martin was a Roman Soldier who shared his cloak with a beggar. A warrior, courageous and successful in battle, undoubtedly an individual accustomed to taking life and risking his own, was surely well placed to have a measure on the value of living. This festival is a time to affirm courage and hope by sharing the light from our lanterns in a community procession.

Sue Neale, Class 6 Teacher



REMEMBRANCE



Upper School paid tribute to Armistice this Monday with an assembly followed by a respectful 2-minute silence at 11 o'clock. We all held in our hearts a fond memory of someone who is no longer with us. The silence was initiated by the Last Post played mesmerizingly on the violin, then ended with The Reveille to help wake us from our thoughts. This is a time for inner reflection whilst remembering those who have once been influential in our lives.

Steve Forrest, Landcraft Lead

LANDCRAFT



A big thank you for all the parents involved in building the woodwork shelter. I have brought down the pole lathes, shave horses and the saw horse for green woodwork. The children have already used the space and thoroughly benefited from the extra space to do their work. This will free up the forge for metal work and also allow us to take more children for woodwork. If any parents have any old vices that they are no longer using then the children would benefit as we will use them along the bench in the outdoor space.

Steve Forrest, Landcraft Lead

DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS



With our new school just two weeks old, it has been an incredibly fruitful fortnight of beginning the processes of setting new foundations, directions and horizons. The clarity and professionalism of colleagues from the Trust's central team, as they have visited the school, are helping us make the transition from being a single organisation to belonging to a broader family.

Many of you have met previously with Mike Ion, the Trust's Education Director, and that both in discussions with Mike and from the frequently asked questions section of the trust's website, have been able to clarify further the process of school renewal, especially regarding our curriculum review.

I am confident that this curriculum review will address with courage the aspirations of this school, together with our sister schools in Bristol and Frome. I am also confident that it will take the inspiration and essence of what state funded Steiner Waldorf education always should have been, together with the principles and practice of the Avanti Way, and emerge with a curriculum that is relevant for the children who study here.

In preparing welcome messages for the families that will join us over these next few years, I have had the opportunity to pause and celebrate the heart and potential of this school, and its uniqueness. I include the beginnings of these messages here, as a marking of time of our progress to date and the journey we are yet to take.

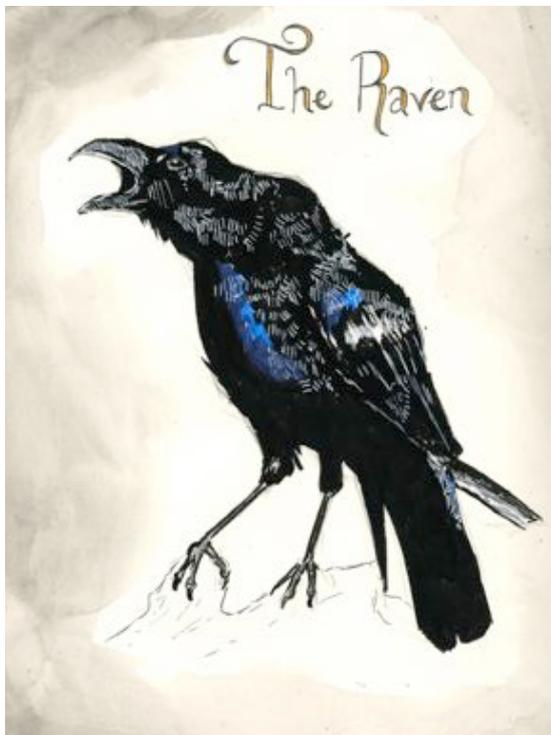
"Avanti Hall School sits in impressive grounds to the east of Exeter amidst a cluster of woodland and trees that might ordinarily be part of an arboretum; redwoods, cedars, pines, dwarf walnuts and copper beeches stand together with ancient and rare oaks and yews. Our school site lends itself perfectly to a current curriculum commitment to 'Landcraft' – a currently unexamined subject taken all the way to year 11 and involving a range of craft, design and forest school projects that support students to discover both themselves and their environment.

This summer's GCSE results were not only respectable, but also saw a stunning 38% of entrants for GCSE Art & Design receive grade 9 (compared to 3% nationally). This reflects the emphasis on artistry across our approach to education. The school's curriculum offer is currently under review to ensure that the balance of head, hand and heart also ensures a strong level of attainment and progress in all subjects in all phases.

In addition, with a 70% entry to English Baccalaureate subjects (compared to about 40% nationally), the depth and breadth of education at this school is a commitment that has a strong basis for the forthcoming review. The history of the school in terms of its Steiner Waldorf origins and its current adoption into the Avanti family, make it well placed to become increasingly relevant for a broader conversation on educational effectiveness and excellence whilst serving the children who attend."

Paul Hougham

Acting Principal



BEHAVIOUR POLICY REVIEW

Monday 18th November,
12noon & 6.00pm

(Please note corrected evening timing)

THANK YOU FOR THE WORKDAY

Thank you to everyone who came along last Saturday to help us improve the site for staff and students. We managed to complete the walls, roof and put in some gates for the woodwork shelter, and despite the weather we managed to spread lots of woodchip in the Kindergarten garden. The Ark also were on site installing a new slide in area they use.

Understandably inside jobs were popular; the library had a great team of volunteers (adults and children) sorting books and tidying up; one parent undertook tiling under hand driers in the main hall and teaching block; and as usual the kitchen team produced some fabulous soup that we all enjoyed at lunch time. Particular thanks goes to wonderful team that helped sort out the camping equipment, this included finding lots of treasures, some of which were more savoury than others!

The next work day will be the second Saturday of the Spring Term, so we hope to see you all on Sat 18th January 2020 starting from 10am and hopefully finishing up a little after 3pm. You don't need to come for the whole day, feel free to come for just an hour or so, there are always jobs inside and out for all abilities.



PTFA NEWS

Dates for your diary:

Monday 18th November, 9:15am Fayre Planning Meeting

Monday 25th November, 9:15am Fayre Planning Meeting

Saturday 30th November, 11am-3pm Advent Fayre

Monday 9th December, 9:15am PTFA AGM

Lots of plans are underway for our Advent Fayre, which is always a very magical event, and raises several thousand pounds towards improving your children's education and educational opportunities. But, as ever, we need your help! Please:

- Come to a planning meeting if you can- we need enthusiasm, new people, new ideas, & abundant energy!
- Make or donate something towards the pre-fayre planning phase
- Volunteer for an hour on the day, or with setting up on Friday

Pre-Fayre Planning & Prep

- Music/ Performance Planning
 - if your children would like to perform on the stage during the fayre, please speak to Anna Gouge who is co-ordinating and assisting with student performances
 - Music- if you or someone you know would like to perform on the day, please speak to Megan or Sophie!
- Music Tech- we desperately need a sound technician to make our music sound lovely!
- Book a stall- via Rebecca Murray, or speak to Sophie or Megan
- Sign up to receive a therapy taster on the day and reward your hard work helping with fayre prep(!) Speak to Jessica Passaro-Davidson or Sophie or Megan
- Donate:
 - Quality preloved adult and children's clothes- please NO rips, tears, stains, or underwear!
 - Books, toys and bric a brac
 - Greenery for wreath making, and festive items such as pine cones- please drop off on Friday ONLY to keep it fresh!
 - Raffle prizes e.g. vouchers- box will be in reception from Monday 18th November
 - An item for our raffle hamper, such as chocolate, wine, natural pamper items- box will be in reception from Monday 18th November
 - Preloved clothes, books and toys will be able to be dropped off to the cabin in the car park from 25th November. This year, we are asking parents to put items into big boxes according to adult male/ adult female/ child clothing; toys; bric a brac; adult books/ child books. Or, for donors to hang up their items on designated rails. This is to reduce the enormous amount of time that volunteers spend sorting and hanging clothes for this fab part of the fayre. Many hands make light work!
- Make:
 - 10 small gifts for the lucky dip apron- box in reception from Monday 18th November- handmade or natural items ONLY please
 - A cake, biscuit or sweet item- drop off to foyer in main hall/ kitchen on Friday 29th after school, or on Saturday before or during fayre. Please clearly label ingredients and NO nuts!

Give an Hour on the Day or During Setting Up

We set up for the fayre on Friday 29th November at 3:45pm.

We need helpers to set up the stage, cook in the kitchen and set up the café, decorate the hall and site and set up the individual parts of the fayre.

On Saturday, we set up from 9am, the fayre starts at 11am, and we also need help with clearing up from 3pm.

You can sign up for many voluntary slots using this form (apologies there was a typo last week!):

www.bookwhen.com/ptfaavantihall

There are lots of things you can help with, including: Parking Marshals, Candle Dipping, Wreath making, Pizza, Café, Lucky Dip Apron Wearer, Raffle/ Welcome table, Pre-loved Boutique, Face painting and more... Altogether, volunteering slots account for over 100 hours, so please don't leave it to someone else- we really need YOUR help. Just imagine how easy it would be if every family just gave an hour!

Looking forward to seeing many of you on Monday and at the Fayre itself!

Sophie Headlong-Moore (Chair) chair.ptfa.sae@gmail.com

Megan Smales (Secretary)



"Arts In Motion"
**CREATIVE
ARTS
DAY**

**UPPER SCHOOL
28TH NOV 2019**

**ART, MUSIC, DRAMA
AND PERFORMING ARTS
ENRICHMENT DAY**

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